

Annual Report of M.O.H.

*Please circulate as
quickly as possible,*

- (1) Mr. Hearn (for
Dr. Hutchinson)
- (2) Dr. Chapman.
- (3) ~~Dr. Hamill.~~
- (4) P.R.M.O. (NW)

Form 23 C/Reg.

Farnworth Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1938.

By A. G. GLASS, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

FARNWORTH:

ALLDRED & SONS LTD., CAXTON BUILDINGS.

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To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to Submit my Report on the health of the Urban District of Farnworth for the year 1938.

The Registrar General has estimated the population of the district for mid-year 1938, at 27,910, a decrease of 10 on the previous year, and a decrease of 807 on the census figures of 1931.

The Birth and Death Rates continue to approximate to each other. For two years in succession the deaths have exceeded the births. The Infantile Mortality Rate of 60 per thousand registered births is the lowest ever recorded in Farnworth.

The three outstanding events of the year were;—

1. The opening of the new clinic in Albert Road. This beautiful and well-equipped building now houses all the Council's medical services.
2. A public local Inquiry into the Petition for Incorporation.
3. A severe outbreak of enteric fever in the New Bury district during August, September, and October. Particulars regarding this will be found in the body of the Report.

This Report follows the lines laid down by the Ministry of Health, and should be read in conjunction with the Report of the School Medical Officer.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

A. G. GLASS.

Members of the Health Committee.

Chairman :

Councillor J. SEDDON.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor S. TAYLOR, C.C.

Members :

Councillor J. HEATHCOTE.
 „ A. HINDLEY.
 „ H. G. HOLLAND.
 „ A. JONES, J.P.
 „ R. H. ROWLANDS, C.C.
 „ R. H. URMSON.
 „ J. WILCOCKSON.
 „ A. H. R. WILLIS.



Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

Chairman :

Councillor S. TAYLOR, J.P., C.C.

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor R. H ROWLANDS, C.C.

Members :

Councillor BECK.
 „ BRABBIN.
 „ HEATHCOTE.
 „ HELME.
 „ JONES.
 „ KIRKMAN.
 „ McMANUS.
 „ SEDDON.
 „ WILCOCKSON.
 „ WILLIS.

Co-opted Members :

Mrs. COOKE, J.P.
 Mrs. COOPER.
 Mrs. JONES.
 Mrs. STEVENSON.
 Mrs. SCOTT.
 Mrs. WILCOCKSON.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area=1504 statute acres.

Population =Census, 1931	28,717
Estimated, 1938 (middle)	27,910
Number of inhabited houses (1931)	7104
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) according to Rate Books	8277
Number of families or separate occupiers (1931) ...	7188
Rateable value (1st April, 1938)	£133,488
Sum represented by a penny rate (1st April, 1938) ...	£515

Social Conditions.

The population is mainly of the working class, the chief employment being in the cotton and coal mining industries.

Approximately 17·0 per cent. of the insured workpeople of 18 years of age and over are unemployed. This is slightly above last year's figure.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

BIRTHS :

	Total.	Males.	Females.
Legitimate	332	180	152
Illegitimate	15	6	9
Total	347	186	161
Birth-rate per 1,000 population	12·4		
Still Births	24	11	13
Rate per 1000 Total Births ...		64	

DEATHS 361 168 193

Crude Death-rate per 1,000 population	12·9
Adjusted " " " "	13·9
No. of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth :	
From sepsis	nil
From other causes	nil

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :

	Total.	Males.	Females.
Legitimate	21	12	9
Illegitimate	—		
Infantile Mortality Rate ...	60		
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)			46
Deaths from Measles (all ages)			nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)			nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)			1

TABLE I.

RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION.

		Birth Rate	Death Rate	Tubercu- losis Death- Rate (Respira- tory)	Infantile Mortality Rate
Mean of 5 years :					
1895-1899	...	32.0	20.4	1.13	242
1900-1904	...	28.3	18.4	0.99	220
1905-1909	...	27.0	16.7	1.13	186
1910-1914	...	23.3	14.1	0.75	160
1915-1919	...	18.6	16.7	1.16	126
1920-1924	...	20.4	12.4	0.87	91
1925-1929	...	15.2	12.2	0.70	85
1930-1934	...	13.0	12.2	0.51	82
1933-1937	...	12.6	12.7	0.44	77
Year :					
1937	...	12.6	13.1	0.46	85
1938	...	12.4	12.9	0.39	60
Increase or decrease in 1938 on Mean of 5 years, 1933-1937					
...	...	-0.2	+0.2	-0.05	-17
Previous year	...	-0.2	-0.2	-0.07	-25

TABLE II.

Showing Birth Rates, Death Rates, and Infantile Mortality Rates for Farnworth since 1912, compared with England and Wales.

Year.	Birth Rates.		Death Rates.		Infantile Mortality Rates.	
	England & Wales	Farnworth	England & Wales	Farnworth	England & Wales	Farnworth
1912	23.9	22.7	13.0	12.5	95	109
1913	24.1	22.4	13.5	15.0	108	215
1914	23.8	23.1	13.7	14.3	105	122
1915	21.9	19.8	14.8	18.3	110	172
1916	20.9	18.5	13.4	15.1	91	104
1917	17.8	18.4	13.5	16.1	96	112
1918	17.7	18.1	17.1	17.1	97	113
1919	18.5	17.0	13.3	16.9	89	127
1920	25.4	24.2	12.1	12.9	80	125
1921	22.4	23.8	11.5	12.5	83	90
1922	20.6	18.6	12.9	13.0	77	68
1923	19.7	17.8	11.6	12.0	69	69
1924	18.8	17.6	12.2	11.7	75	103
1925	18.3	17.2	12.2	12.4	75	80
1926	17.8	15.0	11.6	11.2	70	96
1927	16.7	16.4	12.3	12.5	69	78
1928	16.7	14.3	11.7	11.4	65	75
1929	16.3	13.5	13.4	14.6	74	97
1930	16.3	14.0	11.4	11.4	60	70
1931	15.8	12.3	12.3	12.6	66	84
1932	15.3	14.2	12.0	11.3	65	89
1933	14.4	11.5	12.3	14.2	64	97
1934	14.8	13.2	11.8	11.5	59	72
1935	14.7	12.9	11.7	12.2	57	68
1936	14.8	12.8	12.1	12.7	59	63
1937	14.9	12.6	12.4	13.1	58	85
1938	15.1	12.4	11.6	12.9	53	60

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1938.

Typhoid and paratyphoid fever...	...	...	...	...	7
Encephalitis lethargica	...	...	...	...	2
Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	3
Diarrhoea under 2 years	...	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	3
Influenza	...	...	...	...	7
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	11
Other tuberculous diseases	...	...	...	...	2
Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	...	46
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	3
Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc.	...	...	...	...	22
Heart disease	...	...	...	...	94
Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	...	8
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	9
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	19
Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	2
Peptic ulcer	...	...	...	...	1
Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	...	1
Other diseases of liver	...	...	...	...	6
Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	14
Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...	...	...	17
General paralysis of the insane (tabes, &c.)	...	...	...	...	2
Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	...	...	...	...	14
Senility	...	...	...	...	15
Suicide	...	...	...	...	4
Other deaths from violence	...	...	...	...	11
Other defined diseases	...	...	...	...	37
TOTAL					361

As in past years, heart disease accounts for the largest number of deaths, namely, 26% of the total. Next in the list is cancer, accounting for 12% of all deaths. The third in the list is cerebral hæmorrhage with 6%.

TABLE III.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	NUMBER OF DEATHS.					
	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Pneumonia	29	15	21	16	23	19
Heart disease	78	60	60	82	84	94
Other circulatory diseases	24	24	20	24	15	8
Cancer	53	36	41	39	41	46
Tuberculosis (all forms) ...	16	21	9	20	18	13
Bronchitis	35	9	11	15	22	9
Cerebral hemorrhage ...	13	18	23	27	24	22
Congenital debility ; premature birth ...	17	19	21	19	15	14

TABLE IV.

Showing Infantile Mortality Rates of Towns of over 25,000
population in the administrative County of Lancaster,
for the year 1938.

NAME OF TOWN.	Infantile Mortality Rate.
Accrington	30
Ashton-under-Lyne	77
Chadderton	42
Chorley	75
Crosby	58
Darwen	58
Eccles	60
FARNWORTH	60
Heywood	37
Lancaster	54
Leigh	55
Lytham-St. Annes	32
Middleton	59
Nelson	55
Radcliffe	65
Rawtenstall	62
Stretford	53
Swinton and Pendlebury	56
Widnes	68

Births.

328 live births were registered in Farnworth during the year, these being divided amongst the various Wards as follows :—

N.	S.	N.W.	S.W.	N.E.	S.E.
53	47	68	68	53	39

After adjustment for transferable births, the number to be assigned to Farnworth was 347, giving a birth-rate for the year of 12.4 per 1000 of the population. This was a decrease of 0.2 per 1000 on the previous year, and is a decrease of 0.2 per 1000 over the period 1933-1937.

Deaths.

The number of deaths registered in Farnworth during 1938 was 313.

The Ward distribution was as follows :—

N.	S.	N.W.	S.W.	N.E.	S.E.
62	54	44	64	48	41

After allowance for transfers, the number of deaths assignable to the district was 361, giving a crude death-rate of 12.9 per 1000 of the population. This is a decrease of 0.2 per 1000 on the previous year.

As the age and sex group components vary greatly in different towns, a just comparison cannot be made on "crude" death rates alone. The Registrar General has therefore introduced what he calls a "comparability factor" for each district. That for Farnworth is 1.08. For comparative purposes, therefore, the crude death rate has to be multiplied by 1.08, which gives for Farnworth an "adjusted" death rate of 13.9 per 1,000.

Infant Deaths.

21 deaths of children under 12 months of age were registered, distributed as follows :—

N.	S.	N.W.	S.W.	N.E.	S.E.
1	4	4	7	2	3

The infant mortality rate for the year was 60 per 1000 registered births.

Meteorological Notes for 1938.*

Total sunshine	...	...	...	...	1111.5 hours
Temperature : Highest	...	...	77.1°	August 10th	
Lowest	...	...	22.1°	Dec. 21st	
Mean	...	...	...	...	48.75°

Rainfall :

Maximum in one day	...	...	...	1.721 ins.	May 29th
Total, 1938	...	...	...	...	53.104 ins.
Average, 1887-1938	...	...	...	...	42.434 ins.

*From information kindly supplied by Mr. E. Hendy, Bolton.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

(a) MEDICAL :

Medical Officer of Health : ALEXANDER G. GLASS, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.
(Also M.O.H. Kearsley U.D.C.)

Antenatal Clinic : J. W. A. HUNTER, M.B., Ch.B. (one afternoon fortnightly).

Puerperal Pyrexia : DR. JAMES SCOTT (as required).

Dental Officer to Maternity and Child Welfare Committee : G. C. ROYLEY, L.D.S., (also School Dental Officer.)

(b) OTHERS :

Chief Sanitary Inspector : H. T. OGDEN, M.S.I.A.

Sanitary Inspectors: S. SEEL, A.R.S.I. (also Market Superintendent).
A. H. S. LEWIS, M.S.I.A.

Health Visitors : Miss A. PENDLEBURY, A.R.S.I.,
Certs. M. & C.W. and C.M.B.
Miss A. B. ECROYD, A.R.S.I.,
Certs. S.N. & H.V. and C.M.B.

Clerks : T. SHAW.
Miss J. HARRISON

Professional Nursing in the Home.

(a) GENERAL.

This is carried out entirely by the District Nursing Association, which is a voluntary body, depending for its income on free-will contributions. It has no official connection with the Local Authority, but receives from them an annual subscription of twenty guineas. It is affiliated to the County Nursing Association.

(b) INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Arrangements have been made with the District Nursing Association for the services of a trained nurse in cases of puerperal pyrexia and the notifiable cases of pneumonia. The cost to the Council is from 1/- to 1/6 per visit.

For other infectious diseases there is no domiciliary nursing service. The Health Visitors visit cases of measles, whooping cough, etc., and advise parents in regard to management and treatment.

Midwives.

The Lancashire County Council is the supervising Authority. Under the County Council Scheme, Farnworth forms part of a district which includes Radcliffe, Little Lever, Kearsley, Whitefield and Prestwich. This district has an area of 14,806 acres. Eight midwives have been allotted to the combined district, of whom three are resident in Farnworth. The closest co-operation has been, and will be maintained between the Local Authority and the County Council.

Laboratory Facilities.

The examination of clinical material (blood, swabs, etc.) is done at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester. Milk samples are also examined there.

The examination of sputum is carried out by the Lancashire Tuberculosis Committee, free of charge to the Local Authority.

Public Health Legislation in Force in the Area.

	NAME.	Operative from
LOCAL ACTS :	The Farnworth Urban District Council	
	Act	1900
LOCAL ORDER :	Provisional Order for Amending the Farnworth U.D.C. Act of 1900...	—
ADOPTIVE ACTS :	(as amended by the Public Health Act 1936.)	
	Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890. Parts I. to IV. inclusive...	1891
	Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890... ..	1896
	Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907. Part VI., Sections of Parts II., VII., VIII. and X.	1909
	Public Health Act, 1925. Part II.	1926
LOCAL BYELAWS :	Houses Let in Lodgings	1929
	Common Lodging Houses	1929
	New Streets and Buildings	1930
	Public Baths	1900
	Cleansing of Footways and Pavements	1900
	Nuisances	1900
	Slaughterhouses	1929
	Tripe Boilers	1900
	Sanitary Conveniences	1900
	Tents, Vans, Sheds	1929

The Acts and Byelaws are all enforced.

Hospitals.

Townleys Hospital, with over 500 beds, is within the district, and is under the administrative control of the Bolton Corporation. There is a frequent bus service to the hospital.

Bolton Infirmary, with 226 beds, is easily accessible by tram.

There are also large hospitals in the Salford and Manchester area, to which many Farnworth patients go.

All these Institutions have medical and surgical wards, and are equipped with every modern facility for diagnosis and treatment.

In addition to these general hospitals there is the Manchester Children's Hospital at Pendlebury (190 beds), to which many Farnworth children are sent. With the exception of Townleys Hospital all are voluntary Institutions.

Specialised classes of defect are provided for, e.g.,

Tuberculosis—at the various County Hospitals and Institutions.

Venereal disease—at Bolton Infirmary.

Chronic sick—at Townleys Hospital.

Maternity—at Townleys Hospital.

Puerperal pyrexia—at Townleys Hospital.

Ophthalmia neonatorum—at Townleys Hospital.

Ear, Nose and Throat—at Bolton Infirmary.

Orthopaedics—at Biddulph and Windermere (owned by County Council).

Infectious Disease.

The Council has made the following arrangements for the removal of cases suffering from infectious disease :—

(1) SMALLPOX.

Ainsworth Hospital, under the Bury and District Joint Hospital Board. A retaining fee of £110 per annum is paid. If patients are sent, the cost of their maintenance is also borne by the Council, plus proportion of administrative costs. There has been no case of Smallpox in the district since 1930.

(2) OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES :

The agreement with Salford Corporation for the admission of cases of infectious disease (other than smallpox) continues.

Part taken by the Local Authority in regard to Hospitals:—

(1) FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS.

- (a) Bolton Infirmary.
Tonsils and adenoids, 25/- per case, plus 7/6 for each night detained in hospital.
- (b) Townleys Hospital.
Maternity cases—3 guineas per week.
Puerperal pyrexia—3 guineas per week.
- (c) Orthopaedic Hospitals.
Farnworth has joined in the County Scheme for treatment.

(2) ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS.

Bolton Infirmary	...	...	...	...	£42	0	0
St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester	...	...	...	...	10	10	0
Manchester Royal Infirmary	...	...	...	...	30	0	0
Salford Royal Hospital	...	...	...	...	21	0	0
Manchester Children's Hospital	...	...	...	...	7	0	0
Manchester Royal Eye Hospital	...	...	...	...	3	3	0
Manchester & Salford Hospital for Skin Diseases	...	...	...	...	5	5	0
Royal Albert Institution for the Feeble-minded, Lancaster.	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Christie Cancer Hospital & Holt Radium Institute	...	...	...	...	25	0	0
Manchester Victoria Memorial Jewish Hospital	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Manchester Northern Hospital	...	...	...	...	1	1	0

Ambulance Facilities.

- (a) For infectious cases—Salford Corporation Hospital motor ambulance.
 - (b) For non-infectious and accident cases—Two motor ambulances kept at the Fire Station.
- The ambulance services are satisfactory.

Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers, Illegitimate Infants and Homeless Children.

No institution exists in the area for the reception of unmarried mothers and illegitimate infants. If they are destitute they are received into Townleys. With regard to homeless children, these are provided for by the Public Assistance Committee, who own 10 Cottage Homes, with certified accommodation for 131 children. Each home is under the charge of a foster-mother, who is responsible for its good conduct. The children are kept until they are 14. On reaching the age of 14 they are interviewed by the Juvenile Employment Officer, who takes steps to secure suitable employment for them. In most cases they are sent to other districts, and are looked after by an After-care Committee in the district to which they are transferred.

The children are frequently examined at the school medical inspections, and the School Medical Officer's reports on their nutrition and general cleanliness have been uniformly satisfactory. Any medical defects found receive prompt attention.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

The new clinic in Albert Road was opened in January, and in this modern and well-equipped building are housed all the Authority's medical services.

The Clinic occupies a site of approximately one quarter of an acre, and has a south westerly aspect, fronting on to Albert Road.

The building is designed in the form of a square built around an open rectangle, which provides adequate ventilation to all rooms of the building, the rectangle being laid out in the form of a small rest garden.

The building has the following accommodation :—

- Waiting Room and Lecture Hall.
- Record Office and Dispensary.
- Two Storerooms.
- Cleaners' Store.
- Dentist's Room.
- Recovery Room.
- Minor Ailments Surgery.
- Bathroom.
- Medical Officer's and Eye Specialist's Consulting Room
with Waiting Room.
- Staff and Toddlers' Room.
- Kitchen.
- Waiting and Weighing Room.
- Dressing Cubicles.
- Nurses' Room.
- Medical Officer's Consulting Room (Antenatal).

The building is provided with the usual offices, and staff conveniences.

All rooms are designed so as to provide adequate cross ventilation, and the corridor windows are made to be fully opened. The Service and Consulting Rooms have been placed as far away as possible from the main road, in order to exclude noise.

The building is heated throughout by electrical tubular heating and electric clocks are fitted in the Hall, Minor Ailments Room, and Waiting and Weighing Room.

The Antenatal section of the building is arranged so as to be separated from the remaining rooms, and has its own private entrance at the side of the building.

The Dentist's Room is fitted with a Dentist's Chair, Dental Engine, and special lighting arrangements. The Eye Specialist's Room is fitted with special charts and equipment.

Provision has been made for a Pram Shelter to be erected on each side of the building within the yard boundary wall, each capable of holding twelve perambulators.

Venereal Diseases.—Treated at the V.D. Clinic, Civic Centre, Bolton. Provided by Bolton Corporation.

Tuberculosis.—Dispensary, 19-23, Darley Street, Farnworth. Provided by Lancashire County Council.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water Supply.

The town is supplied with water by Bolton Corporation. The water is derived from upland gathering grounds, is soft in nature, and is of pure quality.

Frequent chemical and bacteriological examinations are made by the Corporation, and close co-operation is maintained between their Health and Waterworks Departments.

All the houses in the district are supplied with water.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Drainage is almost entirely on the combined system. The main sewage disposal plant is situated at the bottom of Hall Lane, just outside the Farnworth district. The sewage, after being screened, is precipitated with lime, afterwards passing through settling beds, from which it is conveyed by mechanical circular sprinklers on to the bacteriological purification beds. The effluent, after parting with its "humus" in specially constructed tanks, finally discharges into the River Croal.

Closet Accommodation.

ACCOMMODATION AT THE END OF 1938 :—

Number of	privy middens	...	...	...	...	10
"	closets attached to these middens	...	...	...	...	13
"	pail closets	...	...	...	...	5
"	fresh water closets	...	...	...	...	8879
"	waste water closets	...	...	...	...	358
"	dry ashpits (excluding middens)	...	...	...	...	Nil
"	movable ashbins for refuse	...	...	...	...	8488
"	houses on water carriage system	...	...	...	...	8277

Conversions.

		During 1938	During 5 years 1933-1937.
Number of privy closets	To fresh water closets	nil	nil
	To waste water closets	nil	nil
	To pails, etc.	nil	1
Number of pail closets	To fresh water closets	nil	nil
	To waste water closets	nil	nil
No of waste water closets to fresh water closets		13	37
Number of houses at which movable ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles		nil	3

Collection and Disposal of House Refuse.

At the end of 1938 there were in the district :—

Privy Closets	13
Pail Closets	5
Galvanized Iron Bins ...	8488

All the above receptacles, except the privy middens, are emptied weekly by the Council's Staff, which consists of a foreman and thirteen others. The Transport department provides one two-ton motor wagon and four carts. All the vehicles are provided with covers.

Certain kinds of trade refuse, e.g. paper, vegetable matter, etc., is collected weekly from shops, stalls, etc., and is disposed of at the tips, combustible material being burnt as far as possible. Fish offal is collected and removed by private firms. Offal from slaughter-houses is removed weekly, and conveyed to Bolton for incineration.

In the past, the Council have made trial of various forms of incinerator, but, for one reason or another, these were considered to be unsatisfactory. Of late years, disposal has been by

Tips.

There are two tips, one at the east end, and the other at the west end of the district. Both are situated at a considerable distance from dwelling houses.

The refuse is tipped in approximately six foot layers, and covered with suitable material. Much land, which would otherwise have remained waste, has been levelled up.

**Tabular Summary of the Work of the Sanitary
Department during the Year.**

Wards:—	South	North	S.E.
Notices :—Preliminary notices served ...	82	174	57
Statutory notices served	18	28	9
Visits :—Abatement of nuisances	218	453	130
Housing inspections and re-visits ...	816	1780	351
Infectious diseases	17	13	26
Cowsheds, Dairies or Milkshops	11	12	12
Ice Cream premises	4	2	2
Factories, Workshops and Workplaces ...	13	10	3
Slaughterhouses	23	210	36
Food preparing premises	9	3	23
Butchers' shops and stalls	7	4	26
Meat vehicles... ..	8	2	4
Bake-houses	22	41	26
Offensive trades	3	—	13
Overcrowding	68	15	19
Shops under Shops Acts	30	18	65
Fish and Chip Shops	4	15	7
Complaints re rats	28	41	15
Disinfestations	17	19	11
Mortuary	—	—	—
Houses :—			
Roofs repaired or reslated	36	37	12
External Walls repointed or rebuilt ...	62	139	16
Chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt ...	12	23	8
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed... ..	8	14	4
Rainwater down-pipes repaired or renewed	3	3	3
„ „ disconnected from drains	2	3	2
„ „ discharged into new cross-gutters	2	13	2
Walls provided with a damp-proof course	56	68	34
Ground floors relaid... ..	44	147	22
Staircases repaired or hand-rails provided	21	61	16
Fire ranges or ovens repaired or renewed	6	35	5
Windows repaired, renewed, or made to open	51	121	18
Wash-boilers renewed or brickwork repaired	3	13	2
New Sinks provided	4	25	4
Walls and ceilings replastered or repaired	156	304	38
Walls and ceilings decorated	158	312	39
Bedroom floorboards repaired or renewed	14	56	10
Doors repaired or renewed	10	53	4
Drains opened, cleansed and relieved ...	3	2	3
W.C.'s provided with water	4	6	4
W.C. cisterns repaired or renewed ...	6	3	2
W.W.C.'s converted to F.W.C.'s	1	3	1
Drains repaired or relaid	3	3	2
Dust bins renewed	46	20	27
Yards paved	33	63	12
Offensive accumulations removed ...	3	2	2
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance ...	—	—	1
New Sink waste pipes provided	6	10	3
Yard Gates repaired or renewed	7	14	4

**Tabular Summary of the Work of the Sanitary
Department during the Year.**

	Wards:—	N.E.	N.W.	S.W.
Notices :—Preliminary notices served ...	172	14	46	
Statutory notices served	24	1	8	
Visits :—Abatement of nuisances	360	52	175	
Housing inspections and re-visits	977	77	211	
Infectious diseases	19	30	223	
Cowsheds, Dairies or Milkshops	8	36	47	
Ice Cream premises	3	2	4	
Factories, Workshops and Workplaces	9	—	14	
Slaughterhouses	205	—	132	
Food preparing premises	18	10	11	
Butchers' Shops and Stalls	2	4	9	
Meat Vehicles	4	3	17	
Bake-houses	27	17	19	
Offensive trades	—	—	—	
Overcrowding	28	4	22	
Shops under Shops Acts	67	23	40	
Fish and Chip Shops	6	5	10	
Complaints, <i>re</i> rats	22	33	69	
Disinfestations	17	20	28	
Mortuary	5	—	—	
Houses :				
Roofs repaired or reslated	60	4	7	
External Walls repointed or rebuilt	54	8	32	
Chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt	11	—	10	
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed... ..	8	—	3	
Rainwater down-pipes repaired or renewed	9	1	4	
„ „ disconnected from drains	6	1	4	
„ „ discharged into new cross-gutters	27	—	3	
Walls provided with a damp-proof course	93	4	20	
Ground floors relaid	131	9	10	
Staircases repaired or handrails provided	38	1	14	
Fire ranges or ovens repaired or renewed...	45	3	4	
Windows repaired, renewed, or made to open	144	9	11	
Wash-boilers renewed or brickwork repaired	23	—	2	
New sinks provided	23	1	5	
Walls and ceilings replastered or repaired	259	11	32	
Walls and ceilings decorated	312	11	30	
Bedroom floor boards repaired or renewed	56	1	4	
Doors repaired or renewed... ..	53	1	2	
Drains opened, cleansed and relieved	2	1	4	
W.C.'s provided with water	6	—	6	
W.C. cisterns repaired or renewed... ..	9	—	3	
W.W.C.'s converted to F.W.C.'s	2	—	6	
Drains repaired or relaid	13	1	11	
Dust bins renewed	20	3	16	
Yards paved	33	3	12	
Offensive accumulations removed	2	—	7	
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	—	—	—	
New Sink waste pipes provided	2	—	3	
Yard Gates repaired or renewed	13	1	4	

Smoke Abatement.**SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.**

	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Number of observations	68	56	67	86	86	89	53	31	16
Legal proceedings ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

The time concession for the emission of black smoke in Farnworth is 2 minutes in the half-hour.

Public Baths.

The Council owns an up-to-date swimming bath. It measures 75 feet in length and 30 feet in width. It has 61 dressing cubicles, 2 large dressing rooms, 2 store rooms, 4 foot-baths, 2 ladies and 3 gent's slipper baths.

The filtration plant consists of a filter tank, pump, motor, super-heater, air compressor and aeration chamber, syphon, glass feed and chemical tanks. The water is kept at a suitable temperature, and is chlorinated. Samples of the water are taken at frequent intervals.

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Bye-laws or Regulations.**(1) HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS :**

There are none in the district

(2) COMMON LODGING HOUSES :

There are none in the district.

(3) OFFENSIVE TRADES :

There are four offensive trades in the district, one tripe boiler, one bone dealer, and two rag dealers. Their premises are frequently inspected.

(4) UNDERGROUND SLEEPING ROOMS :

There are none in the district.

Shops.

The Sanitary Inspectors are appointed to administer all the provisions of the Shops Acts. 243 visits were made during the year.

Schools.

The sanitary condition of the public elementary schools, and the measures taken for safeguarding the health of the scholars are fully described in the Annual Report of the School Medical Officer.

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

157 visits were paid during 1938. 30 defects were found, 28 of which had been remedied by the end of the year.

HOUSING.

Housing Statistics for the year 1938.

Number of new houses erected during the year :

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)...	194
(i) By the Local Authority	107
(ii) By other Local Authorities	nil
(iii) By other bodies or persons	87
(b) With state assistance under the Housing Acts :—	
(i) By the Local Authority	107
(ii) By other bodies or persons	nil

I. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES :

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	528
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	4036
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	286
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	333
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be unfit for human habitation	13
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	456

II. Remedy of defects without service of formal notices :

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	197
--	-----

III. Action under Statutory Powers :

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs... ..	89
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	61
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	nil

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

- | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :— | | | | | | | | |
| (a) By owners | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | nil |

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11 |

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | nil |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | nil |

IV. Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding :—

- | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| A. (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 72 |
| (2) Number of families dwelling therein | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 78 |
| (3) Number of persons dwelling therein | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 497 |
| B. Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| C. (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 55 |
| (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 390 |

Housing Conditions.

(1) GENERAL OBSERVATIONS AS TO HOUSING CONDITIONS.

85 per cent. of the houses in the district (not including those built by the Council) are of the four-roomed type, with separate yards and fresh-water closets. They do not possess larders nor baths, most of them having been built when these two items were considered to be luxuries. I hope the time is not far distant when both larder and bathroom will be compulsory adjuncts of every house.

65 per cent. of the houses are 50 to 60 years old, about 10 per cent. being older.

According to present Byelaws, about 98 per cent. conform to standard.

(2) SUFFICIENCY OF HOUSES.

There is no acute shortage, although we require more bungalows for aged people, and also more houses to relieve overcrowding.

(3) FITNESS OF HOUSES.

A few still remain to be dealt with by way of reconstruction or demolition. Notices for repairs are being constantly served by the Health Department. No great difficulty has arisen in enforcing our powers.

All the houses in the district have a satisfactory water supply, and except in a very few cases, have fresh water closets.

(4) CLEARANCE AREAS AND INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES.

No official representations were made during the year.

Eradication of bed bugs.

Particulars of action taken during the year :—

No. of houses disinfested—

(a) by Hydrogen Cyanide (carried out by Contractor)

(1) Council houses ... 10

(2) Other houses ... 6

(b) Insecticides

(1) Council houses ... 5

(2) Other houses ... 12

Inspection and Supervision of Food.**(a) Milk Supply.**

There are 11 dairy farms in the district with approximately 240 cows. The farms are inspected at frequent intervals for sanitary defects. They are all provided with dairies which have no communication with other buildings.

As from the 1st April, 1938, the veterinary inspection of dairy herds was transferred from local Authorities to the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The provisions of the Milk and Dairies Order requiring cattle to be kept clean, and requiring the washing of udders and flanks previous to each milking, were complied with.

1938.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK SAMPLES
TAKEN DURING THE YEAR.

Kind of Milk.	Bacterial count per c.c.	Bacillus coli present (3 tubes—O.l.c.c.) (3 tubes—O.Olc.c.)	Tubercle bacilli.
Mixed	11,200	Absent in 1.O.c.c.	negative
Mixed	12,600	O.l.c.c. in 2 tubes O.Olc.c. in 2 tubes	negative
Mixed	8,300	O.l.c.c. in 1 tube O.Olc.c. in 1 tube	negative
Mixed	8,300	Absent in 1.Oc.c.	negative
Mixed	24,300	O.l.c.c. in 3 tubes O.Olc.c. in none	negative
Mixed	2,800	O.l.c.c. in 3 tubes O.Olc.c. in 3 tubes	negative
Mixed	700	O.l.c.c. in none O.Olc.c. in none	negative
Mixed	4,100	C.l.c.c. in none O.Olc.c. in none	negative
Mixed	3,700	O.l.c.c. in none O.Olc.c. in none	negative
Mixed	5,700	Absent in 1.Oc.c.	negative
Mixed	52,000	O.l.c.c. in 2 tubes O.Olc.c. in 1 tube	positive
Mixed	660,000	O.l.c.c. in 3 tubes O.Olc.c. in 2 tubes	positive
Mixed	32,000	O.l.c.c. in 3 tubes O.Olc.c. in none	negative
Mixed	7,120,000	O.l.c.c. in 3 tubes O.Olc.c. in 3 tubes	negative
Mixed	3,280,000	O.l.c.c. in 3 tubes O.Olc.c. in 3 tubes	negative
Mixed	8,700	O.l.c.c. in none O.Olc.c. in none	negative
Mixed	12,800	Absent in 1.Oc.c.	negative
Mixed	12,400	O.l.c.c. in none O.Olc.c. in none	negative
Pasteurised ...	26,000	Absent in 1.Oc.c.	negative
Pasteurised ...	10,800	Absent in 1.Oc.c.	negative
Pasteurised ...	4,600	Absent in 1.Oc.c.	negative
Pasteurised ...	2,670	Absent in 1.Oc.c.	negative
Pasteurised ...	57,000	O.l.c.c. in none O.Olc.c. in none	negative
Pasteurised ...	12,800	Absent in 1.Oc.c.	negative
Pasteurised ...	10,700	Absent in 1.Oc.c.	negative

In addition, five samples of milk were examined for the presence of typhoid bacilli. All were negative.

(b) Meat.

The following is the report of the Meat Inspector :—

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are seven slaughterhouses in the district. The structures are in fair condition, but the majority of the slaughterhouses are near to dwelling-houses, and nuisances—which in the main are unavoidable during the process of slaughter of animals—are caused to occupants of nearby houses.

The requirements of the Byelaws as to the whitewashing of internal structures at regular intervals; the cleansing of walls and floors immediately after slaughter is completed; the keeping of all offensive matter—until removed—in galvanised receptacles with close fitting covers, and the thorough cleansing of such receptacles immediately after use, have been fully complied with.

The Byelaws which require animals to be slaughtered by humane methods—by the use of a mechanically operated instrument, are in force.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

The above Regulations which require that persons handling meat or bacon must take adequate precautions to prevent contamination are enforced in the district.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

A systematic inspection of animals slaughtered for human consumption has been made during the year, all butchers having to notify their intention of slaughtering animals in accordance with the provisions of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

The carcasses, organs and offal are inspected at the time of slaughter in accordance with the Ministry of Health's circular letter to Local Authorities and their Officers (Memo. 62 Foods).

The following is a tabulated statement of the visits made to slaughterhouses, and the carcasses examined each month :—

Months.	Visits.	Beasts.	Sheep and Lambs.	Calves.	Pigs.
January	34	37	73	—	14
February	55	36	125	—	1
March	50	46	90	1	18
April	59	40	87	—	16
May	50	43	126	—	7
June	47	40	120	—	7
July	48	33	150	—	4
August	51	42	151	—	—
September	48	44	127	—	3
October	64	45	96	—	5
November	54	51	131	—	8
December... ..	50	47	96	2	39
	610	504	1372	3	122

INSPECTION OF MEAT :—

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle (excluding cows).	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	—	—	—	—	—
Number inspected ...	316	188	3	1372	122
All diseases except Tuberculosis—Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	0.9	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis only—					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	7	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	11	66	—	—	9
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	4.1	38.8	—	—	7.3

H. T. OGDEN.

(c) Adulteration of Food.

The County Council are the Authority under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, and samples are taken by the police. Supt. Turner has kindly supplied me with the following figures which relate to Farnworth for the year 1938 :—

	No. of samples taken.					
Milk	37
Butter	2
Pepper	2
Boiled Sweets	1
Baking Powder	1
Lancashire Cheese	2
Canned Damsons	1
Sugar	1
Ground Ginger	1
Castor Oil	1
Flowers of Sulphur	1
Liquorice powder	1
Olive oil	1
Tapioca	1
Vinegar	1
Zinc ointment	1

All the Samples were genuine.

Prevalence of, and control over,
Infectious Diseases.

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious disease notified during the last five years, and the number of deaths :

TABLE V.

	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	No. of Deaths.
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	36	28	50	25	53	13
Erysipelas	45	31	20	23	14	—
Scarlet Fever ...	146	132	85	73	54	1
Enteric Fever ...	—	1	—	—	51	7
Puerperal fever ...	3	6	12	9	—	3
Puerperal pyrexia	78	2	2	3	28	—
Ophthalmia						
Neonatorum ...	8	—	1	—	1	—
Pneumonia—Acute						
Lobar & Influenzal	107	122	87	99	73	123*
Tuberculosis :						
Pulmonary ...	20	19	14	19	21	74
Other forms ...	7	5	8	6	13	23
Encephalitis						
Lethargica ...	—	—	—	1	—	8
Cerebro-spinal fever	—	2	2	1	1	2
Acute poliomyelitis	6	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	1	—

* This figure includes deaths from all forms of pneumonia, notifiable and non-notifiable.

Enteric Fever.

A severe outbreak of enteric fever occurred in the New Bury district during the months of August, September and October. The area concerned consists almost entirely of new Council houses, and is open and healthy. The area contains approximately 600 houses, with a population of slightly over 2,000. The first case was notified on August 1st. Consultation with the medical practitioner confirmed the diagnosis, and the case was sent to Ladywell, where examination of the blood left no doubt as to the true nature of the disease. Meantime, four cases which had been sent to hospital as suspected food-poisoning proved, on blood examination, to be enteric. For the next week local practitioners reported many cases which they had diagnosed as gastric influenza, and which, after a bacteriological test, turned out to be enteric. In this way, a large number of cases had occurred before drastic action could be taken. The Ministry of Health was informed of the position by telephone, and an investigator was sent down to the district. The area was carefully mapped off, and every house where a case had occurred was visited. Enquiries into water, milk and food kept the Health Department busy for many weeks. Unfortunately we have not been able to trace the outbreak to any definite cause, all the enquiries leading to a blind end. The water and the milk supplies were at an early stage excluded as a possible source of the trouble, and we were left with the question of some article or articles of food contaminated by a carrier. This was the most likely cause of the outbreak, but nothing definite has been discovered. Altogether 51 cases were notified with seven deaths.

Diphtheria.

51 cases of diphtheria belonging to the district were notified during the year, against an average of 31 for the previous 5 years. There were 3 deaths. This disease continues to maintain its virulent character. Owing to the prompt use of antitoxin, however, the case mortality has been greatly reduced in recent years.

Diphtheria Antitoxin.

Antitoxin is provided by the Council free of charge for patients residing within the district. A supply is always available for medical practitioners, and is supplied in phials of 8,000 units and of 1000 units, the former for curative and the latter for prophylactic purposes.

During 1938 antitoxin to the amount of 598,000 units was issued to medical men.

Active Immunisation against Diphtheria.

An immunisation clinic was held weekly during the year, and much propaganda work was undertaken. Leaflets were distributed to all the schools, and talks were given to groups at the clinic by the Medical Officer and the Nurses. Articles were published in the local press, and all the Nurses used their influence with parents both at the clinic and in the homes.

The results, as far as numbers are concerned, were disappointing.

The following table shows the numbers of children who were fully protected during the year :—

1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.	5-6 yrs.	6-7 yrs.	7-8 yrs.	8-9 yrs.	9-10 yrs.	10-11 yrs.	11-12 yrs.	12-13 yrs.	13-14 yrs.	Over 14	TOTAL
88	41	47	56	61	44	39	40	35	48	53	47	35	25	659

For children up to 14 years of age the immunising agent used is Alum Precipitated Toxoid, or, as it is commonly called "A.P.T.," in two injections, with an interval of three weeks between each injection.

From 15 years upwards, Toxoid-antitoxin Floccules, or "T.A.F." is used in three injections at fortnightly intervals.

Diphtheria does its most deadly work in children under 5 years of age, and yet mothers have not availed themselves of the protection afforded by immunisation. Only 31% (approx.) of that group have been protected.

Taking the children as a whole, up to school leaving age, only 23% (approx.) have been protected.

It cannot be too strongly emphasised that parents who leave their young children unprotected to the ravages of this deadly disease incur a grave responsibility.

It is gratifying to be able to record that only one protected child contracted diphtheria during the year.

Scarlet Fever.

During the year 54 cases were notified, against an average of 117 per year for the previous five years. This disease has become of so mild a character in recent years that many cases go quite unrecognised. There were no deaths.

Pneumonia.

The various forms of pneumonia continue to take a heavy toll of life. Of the notifiable varieties 73 cases were reported, while the average number during the previous five years has been 121 per year. Of the 73 cases only 42 belonged to the district.

The remainder belonged to outside districts, principally Bolton, and were notified from Townleys Hospital. Six of the cases were of the influenza type and belonged to the district. There were 19 deaths from all forms of pneumonia including the non-notifiable varieties.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

Twenty-eight cases were notified during the year, only seven of which belonged to Farnworth.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

One case was notified during the year, from Townleys Hospiial, and belonged to Bolton.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED DURING 1938.

NATURE OF SPECIMEN.					NUMBER.	
Swabs (for diphtheria)	...	...	...	...	172	(42 positive)
Blood &c. (for typhoid)	...	...	...	...	58	(15 „)
Blood (for dysentery)	...	...	...	...	1	(1 „)

Milk Samples, see page 27.

Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Information regarding cases reaches us chiefly from two sources (1) The Health Visitors who discover them on their rounds, and (2) The Education Department, to whom they are notified by teachers, and the School Attendance Officer. All such cases are visited by the Health Visitors, and instructions given to parents regarding treatment, isolation, etc.

Blind Persons Act.

The County Council are the authority for the welfare of the Blind. In the district of Farnworth, all children up to the age of 14, who suffer from any form of eye trouble, are kept under constant supervision. If they are blind within the meaning of Section 69 of the Education Act, they are sent to a special school for the Blind in Bolton. All children who require it, are examined by the ophthalmic surgeon, and hospital treatment at Bolton is available for any who require it. Minor eye troubles are treated regularly at the Farnworth Clinic.

Disinfection.

Disinfection of such articles as bedding and clothing is carried out by steam disinfection at the old Isolation Hospital. In the case of patients sent to hospital, the bedding and clothing are disinfected by the Salford Corporation.

Disinfestation by Hydrogen Cyanide Gas.

This is carried out by a Liverpool firm in the case of all removals from condemned property to Council houses, and also in the case of Council houses which have become re-infested.

For cases where less drastic treatment is required, insecticide is used.

TABLE VI.—Giving particulars regarding the Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1938.

[illegible]

(1) Only 51 of these belonged to the district

(4) This case did not belong to the district

(5) Only 11 of these belonged to the district

(6) This case did not belong to the district

FARNWORTH CASES ONLY.
Infectious Diseases Notified During the Year.

DISEASE	WARDS						
	N.	S.	N.W.	S.W.	N.E.	S.E.	Total
Scarlet fever	4	6	6	19	10	9	54
Diphtheria	7	7	9	12	5	11	51
Erysipelas	—	1	1	3	4	2	11
Acute primary pneumonia ...	4	6	2	10	10	4	36
Acute influenzal pneumonia ...	3	1	—	—	1	1	6
Puerperal pyrexia	—	—	4	2	1	—	7
Enteric fever	—	—	1	49	—	1	51
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Pulmonary tuberculosis ...	5	2	4	4	3	3	21
Non-pulmonary tuberculosis ...	—	5	1	4	2	1	13

TABLE VII.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1938.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5... ..	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
5—10... ..	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	—
10—15... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
15—20... ..	—	3	1	—	—	1	—	—
20—25... ..	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	—
25—35... ..	3	5	—	2	1	1	—	1
35—45... ..	3	1	1	2	1	1	—	—
45—55... ..	2	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
55—65... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
Totals	9	12	7	6	5	6	1	1

Ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths—3 to 10.

Notification of tuberculosis in the district is efficient. No action necessary.

STATEMENT SHOWING TREATMENT RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR
BY PATIENTS SUFFERING FROM TUBERCULOSIS.
WHO RESIDE IN THE AREA.

Number of cases :	Adults.	Children	Total
Admitted to Sanatoria	2	—	2
Admitted to Pulmonary Hospitals ...	16	1	17
Admitted to General or Special Hospitals	4	3	7
Granted "light" treatment	3	2	5
Granted X-ray examination	85	5	90
Granted Dispensary supervision or Dis- pensary treatment, with provision of special nourishment	18	2	20
Granted Dispensary supervision or treatment	57	8	65
Under Supervision on 31st Dec., 1938...	84	10	94
The 94 cases under supervision at the end of the year have been classified as follows :—			
Pulmonary	57	1	58
Non-pulmonary	23	9	32
Combined	4	—	4
Cases taken off the Register as "cured"	3	—	3
Sputum Examinations			171
Number in which tubercle bacilli were found			14

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

These Regulations empower the Local Authority to prevent any one who is suffering from respiratory tuberculosis from taking part in the milking of cows, the treatment of milk, or the handling of vessels used for containing milk.

No action under these Regulations was necessary during the year.

Public Health Act 1936. Section 172.

This section empowers a Local Authority to remove compulsorily to hospital infectious persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis whose lodging or accommodation is such that proper precautions to prevent the spread of infection cannot be taken, or that such precautions are not being taken.

No action was necessary.

National Rat Week.

This was held from November 7th to 12th. By means of advertisements in the local press, and posters, the attention of the public was drawn to the damage and disease caused by rats, and advice given as to their destruction.

Maternity and Child Welfare Department.

1. Health Visiting.

The Council employs 2 fully-trained Health Visitors who devote the whole of their time to the Maternity & Child Welfare Service. One of their principal duties is to visit newly-born children for the purpose of advising mothers in regard to the feeding and care of their infants. Home visitation is of vital importance, as some mothers do not bring their children to the clinic. Scientific knowledge must therefore be carried to the homes. Mothers are urged to acquire the "clinic habit" so that babies may be regularly weighed and kept under observation, for it is chiefly in this way that early defects are discovered. In spite of every encouragement, however, there are mothers who, from one cause or another, will not come to the centre. Repeated visits are paid during the first year of the baby's life, and thereafter as often as may be deemed necessary until the child arrives at school age. Reference to page 45 will show the number and nature of the visits paid during 1938.

2. The Welfare Clinic.

The clinic is open on three afternoons each week, when both Health Visitors are in attendance. The Medical Officer attends on one of the afternoons for consultation.

A feature of the work at the clinic is the regular weighing of the babies. It cannot be too strongly emphasised that loss of weight is often the first, and, indeed, is frequently the only indication that a child is not making progress. Lectures and talks on health topics are given and in this and other ways it is sought to inculcate the principles of a healthy way of life.

The various brands of dried milk, are sold to mothers at cost price; and under the Council's scheme milk—liquid and dried—is supplied free (in necessitous cases) to expectant and nursing mothers; also to young children up to two years of age, and as from 1st April, 1938, to all children between two and five (on the Medical Officer's Certificate) who are not in attendance at an Elementary School.

The social side of the work is also encouraged. Mothers are supplied with tea and cakes at a small cost, and they have the opportunity of friendly intercourse with one another.

Our best thanks are again due to the voluntary helpers who have devoted so much of their time and energy to welfare work.

3. Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinic.

The clinic was held fortnightly during the year.

During the year 25 sessions were held, the Gynæcologist being in attendance.

183 expectant mothers came for consultation and examination, and they made 524 attendances. Of the 183 cases, 55 attended on one occasion only, 24 came twice, 47 three times, 27 four times, 20 five times, 4 six times, 3 seven times, 1 eight times, and 2 over that number. 70 were expectant for the first time (primiparae). The ages of the primiparae are shown in the following table:—

Under 20	20-25	25-30	30-35	35-40	Over 40
5	24	26	13	2	—

The most serious of the morbid conditions found on examination are given below.

	Primiparae.	Multiparae.
	No. of cases	No. of cases
Dental disease	31	45
Contracted pelvis	8	15
Albuminuria	21	15
High Blood Pressure	8	5
Haemorrhage	2	6
Varicose Veins	2	1
Cardiac Disease	2	0
Transverse presentation	1	3
Breech presentation	3	6
Hydramnios	1	1
Fibroids	0	1

Appropriate treatment was arranged for in all cases.

CONFINEMENT HISTORY OF PATIENTS.

By the end of the year 138 of the patients had been confined. The following table gives particulars regarding the confinements :—

	Primiparae.	Multiparae.
No. confined	57	81
Confinement at home	22	54
Confinement at Haslam Maternity Home	2	—
Confinement at Townleys Hospital	28	23
Confinement at St. Mary's Hospital	5	4
Vertex presentation	53	74
Breech presentation	4	—
Other „	—	7
Labour normal	38	72
Labour normal but prolonged ...	6	7
„ induced	1	1
Caesarian Section	2	1
Forceps delivery	10	—
Ruptured perineum	4	1
Condition of mother satisfactory ...	57	81
Condition of child :		
Alive and well	53	73
Still-born	3	7
Died within 2 days	1	1

Post-natal Clinic.

Five cases attended the post-natal clinic during the year. They received the necessary advice and treatment.

4. Convalescent Homes.**(a) FOR MOTHERS AFTER CONFINEMENT.**

Arrangements have been made for the admission of suitable cases to the Lear Home of Recovery, West Kirby.

Unfortunately there are no homes within reasonable reach which take in mother and child. The importance of breast feeding renders it essential that a mother should not be separated from her child. In the circumstances, patients are restricted to those cases where the baby has died, or where, for some valid reason, breast feeding has been discontinued. One case was sent during the year.

(b) FOR PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee have reserved a cot at the North of England Children's Sanatorium, Southport, at an annual cost of £39. During the year eight children were sent.

5. Home Helps.

The Council undertakes to provide Home Helps for mothers at the time of their confinement. A register of women who are suitable and available for such services is kept at the office. The Help takes over the ordinary household duties, and in this way relieves the mother of responsibility during her period of disablement. A definite scale of charges has been drawn up. Six Home Helps were supplied during the year, and all agreed to pay according to scale.

6. Maternity Cases.

Arrangements exist with Townleys Hospital, whereby any woman can be admitted for her confinement. Payment is made according to her means. 38 cases were admitted to Townleys during the year.

7. Puerperal Pyrexia.

The following arrangements, which were approved by the Ministry of Health, have been made by the Farnworth Council :—

- (1) second opinion—Dr. Scott, of Bolton, has been appointed at a fee of £2 2s. per consultation.
- (b) bacteriological examinations can be carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester.
- (c) hospital treatment—cases are admitted to Townleys Hospital, provided there is accommodation available, at the rate of 3 guineas per week per patient.
- (d) skilled nursing—this is carried out by the District Nursing Association at a cost to the Council of 1/6 per visit.

8. Maternal Mortality.

During the year enquiries were made into the deaths of two expectant mothers. Both had suffered from chronic diseases which were assigned by the Registrar-General as the cause of death. There were therefore no deaths attributable to maternity during the year.

The risks attending pregnancy are considerable, and I would strongly urge medical men and midwives to insist on all their pregnant patients having at least one expert examination during the expectant period.

9. Infant Life Protection.

Under the Local Government Act of 1929, the duties in connection with infant life protection, which were formerly discharged by the Guardians, have been transferred to those local authorities who are responsible for maternity and child welfare. The "Children and Young Persons Act," 1933, has introduced a few more administrative changes. Briefly, the local authority is now responsible for the supervision up to the age of nine years of all children who are maintained "for reward."

The Health Visitors were appointed by the Council to be the Infant Life Protection Visitors, and they pay regular visits to the children.

At the end of the year there were only four children on the Register.

10. Dental Treatment.

Mr. G. C. Royley, L.D.S., was appointed a full-time officer of the Local Authority as from 1st April of this year. He will devote all his time to the work of the Education Committee and of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. As far as the latter Committee is concerned, he will treat (1) Pre-school children, and (2) Expectant and nursing mothers.

Dental Statistics for 1938 :—

(1) PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN.—Seventeen cases were treated, chiefly by way of extractions.

(2) EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS.—Sixteen cases attended for treatment, of whom three required dentures, one fillings, two scalings and polishings, and the remainder had extractions. The cost of this service was estimated at £17 14s. 6d., of which the patients agreed to pay £5 0s. 0d. With the exception of four cases, all the extractions were completed under local anaesthesia.

Mr. Royley reports as follows :—

“The number of mothers specially referred to the dental clinic by the Medical Officer was 31, all of whom required treatment, but only 16 were actually treated. The remaining 15 were either above scale, i.e., they could afford to be treated by their own dentist, or they refused treatment for various reasons.

“There is still a strong disinclination among some of the mothers to undergo dental treatment, which is only natural. The most frequent reason given is that it might be harmful during the pregnant state. This objection is not localised to Farnworth, but is general.

“I intend to give talks to mothers on such subjects as diet, care of teeth, and the ill-effects of septic mouths on their general condition. After these talks I am hoping they will understand the reason why they are asked to undergo dental treatment, and also realise that there is nothing to worry about as regards any after-effects”.

11. Tonsils and Adenoids.

Eleven pre-school children had operative treatment at Bolton Royal Infirmary.

12. Minor Ailments.

68 children attended the school clinic during the year, making in all 545 attendances.

13. Orthopaedics.

13 pre-school children attended the Orthopaedic Clinic during the year, and made 33 attendances. None of the children had to be sent to Biddulph Hospital. 11 Surgical appliances, *i.e.*, boots, irons, etc., were supplied through the Clinic.

14. Defective Vision.

11 pre-school children were examined by the School Oculist. In 6 cases suitable glasses were prescribed, whilst in 5 cases other treatment was advised.

15. Medical Officer's Consultations at the Clinic.

The following is a summary of the defects for which the Medical Officer was consulted during 1938 :—

Number of consultations	...	...	...	561
Malnutrition and general debility, including defects of digestive system...	...	...	...	95
Eye (including Squint)...	...	...	...	18
Skin	...	...	...	33
Reproductive Organs	...	...	...	20
Rupture	...	...	...	6
Tonsils and Adenoids	...	...	...	28
Rickets	...	...	...	11
Dental	...	...	...	4
Deformities	...	...	...	3
Ear	...	...	...	6
Pulmonary	...	...	...	17
Mental	...	...	...	2
Other	...	...	...	52

8 expectant mothers also attended and made 8 attendances.

Summary of work done by Maternity and Child Welfare Department in 1938 :—

Visits :—

First Visits	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	362
Re-visits—under 1 year	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1520
1—5 years	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	3088
Expectant Mothers :—								
First Visits	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	132
Re-visits	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	154
Infectious Diseases	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	46
Infant Life Protection	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	16
Special Visits	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	248
								<hr/>
Total	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	5566
								<hr/>
Homes—Number Visited	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1243

Clinic :—

No. of Infants under 12 months	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	380
Children between 1 and 5 years	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	550
Total attendances of above two groups	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	6618
Average attendance per session	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	46
Expectant Mothers—Number	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	183
„ „ Attendances	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	524

Free Supply of Milk, etc. :—

Dried Milk	....	....	....	....	....	....	4022-lbs.
Cows' Milk	....	....	....	....	....	....	544 gallons
Cod Liver Oil	....	....	....	....	....	....	128-lbs.

A. G. GLASS

